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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editorial	1	Chemical Weed Control	8
Word From President	2	Swine Testing Control	9
Management Proficiency Pays	3	To Springfield In 1960	10
Expanding Community Services	5	1959 Conference Highlights	10
Advantages of Honorary Society	6	NACTA Chatter	11
Conducting Research	6	First Delta Tau Alpha Chapter	12
Passing of L. E. Laubaugh	8	Thanks, Conner Prairie Farms	12

ON THE BEAM

Like a plane flying steadily on its charted course and gathering momentum as its powerful motors warm up to their task might well describe the NACTA as is concluded its 1959 meeting at Berea College and started to look forward to the 1960 Conference at Southwest Missouri State College.

The original NACTA plane had one motor which it used as it organized and commenced to fly a little above the ground. At its second Warrensburg, Missouri meeting the motor was reconditioned and the NACTA found it could fly a little higher while beginning to increase its cruising range or influence.

The third year at Nacogdoches, Texas, we selected an editor and commissioned him to bring into the professional world the NACTA Journal. In effect our organization acquired a two-motor plane which had more power and greater stability. Our conference at Jonesboro, Arkansas, the following year enabled us to check both motors and make a few adjustments so that the ship would meet the needs of a growing association. Too, we laid plans for a larger plane.

Then, in March 1959 at Berea, Kentucky, we grew up and became a four-motor organization by holding our livestock and dairy cattle judging contests, and approving the formation of a national honor society. Yes, the NACTA still has its feet on the ground, yet the facilities with which to fly into hither-to-fore unreached territory.

Let us not be content with our achievements, substantial as they are to the present time. We have the foundation laid, the four sturdy corner posts firmly anchored and the structure enclosed. There is still need to furnish the building and make it more functional. May all of us resolve to interest other college teachers of agriculture in our association so that it will continue to increase in membership and in service to our profession

* Published at Cookeville, Tenn., E. B. Knight, Tennessee Tech, Editor

A Word From Our President

By Ralph A. Benton
Southern Illinois University

From the vantage point of the beginning of a new conference year let us take a quick look back over the five brief years of accomplishment since the beginning of the NACTA, and then a good look ahead.

Certain forward looking individuals during 1954 did "spade" work and laid plans for a meeting of agriculture teachers representing non-land grant colleges and universities. These plans culminated in a meeting on the campus of Central Missouri State College at Warrensburg, Missouri in March 1955.

The first meeting was a work shop during which objectives were set forth and an official name adopted. The high light of the second annual meeting was the adoption of a constitution and by-laws. Several standing committees were established and studies were begun in several areas important to NACTA members.

At the third annual conference attention was focused on (1) the improvement of college teaching, and (2) college enrollments and recruitment. In its fourth fourth year emphasis was given to curriculum studies and needed changes. The first issue of the NACTA Newsletter made its appearance and plans were made for the first intercollegiate livestock and dairy judging contests.

In the year just past additional significant advances were made. An opportunity was provided whereby the purposes and objectives of the NACTA were discussed with the Resident Instruction Committee of the land-grant colleges. A highly successful intercollegiate judging contest was initiated and an honorary

society organized. These achievements are most commendable.

The future continues to be an exciting challenge. With approximately 1000 men to be reached in 165 colleges and universities, continued effort must be made to reach them. Every member should be active in his respect and considerable responsibility rests upon the Regional Directors for publicity and contact work.

Continued work on curriculum improvement and the improvement of teaching are musts. Some fine work has already been done in both areas and reported at the annual conferences. A worthy project could be developed by the curriculum committee around a course in basic agriculture with members preparing different units. These units would then be tested for a year by schools offering such a course in its curriculum. After usage and with refinements, this course could be made available to any interested school.

Evaluative criteria and standards of measurement applicable to all colleges and universities are needed in the area of teaching.

An added opportunity is now available for further cooperation in higher education activities through the medium of the U. S. Office of Education and Dr. Henry S. Brunner, Specialist for Agricultural Sciences.

The new Honor Society makes possible national recognition for superior students. Other possible NACTA sponsored intercollegiate activities might be a speaking contest in conjunction with the annual meeting of the honor society. Also a poultry judging event could be added to the livestock judging contest.

Other areas of work will present themselves and, as president for the new year, I assure the members of the Association that all officers and committee men will do their best to make this another good year for the NACTA.

FARM MANAGEMENT PROFICIENCY PAYS

By Lauren B. Granger
Central Missouri State College

Skillful farm management plays an increasingly important role in the farming of this country. There are many reasons for this change. Increased mechanization, rapid technological advances and the rising cost structure in agriculture are the chief reasons why additional skills and knowledge are needed by those who make the farm management decisions.

Farm records and farm record analysis are two areas in farm management whose wise use helps many alert farmers to increase their profits. However, great numbers of farmers in the United States keep and use no more farm records than are necessary to file a cash basis income tax return. It is general knowledge that such records are not adequate for an enterprise analysis of the whole farm business. Consequently, many farmers are now making management decisions without having all of the necessary business facts from their own farms. It would appear that college teachers of agriculture could do much to alleviate this situation through the design and conduct of proper educational programs.

The writer was privileged to serve for five years as state coordinator of a new adult farm management program which was started in the public schools of Minnesota. Every farmer in the program kept complete farm records and had them analyzed annually. The instruction that they received from their local vo-ag teacher was built around the problems reflected by their individual farm business situation. It is interesting to note that this program was started from scratch in 1953 and during 1958 was serving more than 500 farmers.

The chief purpose of this article is to report a Ph.D. study that the author completed in 1958 on the farm management data of farmers who were enrolled in the Minnesota Vo-Ag Farm Management Program for the year 1956.

The study was designed to investigate the farm business records of 238 farmers in six regional groups of farms divided on a geographic basis throughout all of Minnesota. The purpose of the investigation was to determine for each of the six groups of farms the relationships, if any, between farm earnings variation and the fifteen following farm business factors: (1) crop yields, (2) crop selection, (3) feeding efficiency, (4) livestock units per 100 acres, (5) work units, (6) work units per worker, (7) power, machinery, building and equipment expense per work unit, (8) years for receipts to equal capital, (9) work units per \$1000 capital, (10) livestock and livestock product sales per animal unit, (11) gross farm receipts per worker, (12) gross farm receipts per acre, (13) gross farm expense per dollar receipts, (14) value fertilizer purchases per acre, and (15) power and machinery costs per acre.

For a better understanding of the amounts of farming resources utilized by farmers in the study, tables one and two are included. The farms from the Mankato region had the largest amounts of farm capital of any region and they represent a good commercial corn and livestock type of farming. The Duluth Region on the other hand, is a cut-over forest area that many consider to be marginal for farming purposes. The farms of this region had the smallest amounts of farm capital of any region in the study. The other four regions whose data are not listed here had farm capital averages per farm that fell between the amounts found on the Mankato and Duluth region farms.

TABLE 1

The 1956 Mean, High and Low Amounts of Land, Labor, Capital and Operator's Earnings for the 65 farms in the Mankato Region

	Mean	High	Low
Land—Acres	201	452	80
Labor—No. Workers	1.4	3.0	1.0
Capital	\$50,486	107,080	23,620
Operator's Earnings	\$ 4,918	17,460	1,883

TABLE 2

The 1956 Mean, High and Low Amounts of Land, Labor, Capital and Operator's Earnings for 24 farms in the Duluth Region

	Mean	High	Low
Land—Acres	309	965	120
Labor—No. Workers	1.5	2.4	1.0
Capital	\$15,948	\$3,140	3,660
Operator's Earnings	\$ 1,694	4,400	-99.3

The data were analyzed by multiple regression procedures. Tests for significance on the multiple correlations were carried out by analysis of variance techniques while the test was used to test significance among the individual independent variables. The complete analysis revealed the following results:

1. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the multiple correlations when the multiple correlation coefficients were tested as a whole for each of the six regional groups of farms.

2. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earning variation and the one individual farm business factor—gross farm expense per dollar receipts—in five of the six regional groups of farms.

3. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the two farm business factors (1) work units and (2) gross receipts per worker in four of the regional groups of farms.

4. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the farm business factor—work units per worker—in three of the regional groups of farms.

5. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the

one factor—years for receipts to equal capital—among the farms studied in two of the six regions.

6. Significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the three farm business factors (1) crop selection, (2) work units per \$1000 capital, and (3) livestock and livestock product sales per animal unit. Each factor was significant in a different region.

7. No significant differences at the five per cent or higher levels were found between farm earnings variation and the seven individual farm business factors (1) crop yields, (2) feeding efficiency, (3) livestock units per 100 acres, (4) power, machinery, building and equipment expense per work unit, (5) gross receipts per acre, (6) value fertilizer purchases per acre, and (7) power and machinery costs per acre in each of the six regional groups of farms.

The findings of the study appear conclusive enough to have several implications for teachers of agriculture and farmers. Consequently, the three following general recommendations for farm management improvements are made:

1. The farmers in the study would have a good probability of increasing their farm earnings by improving their overall standings up to the point of diminishing returns in the fifteen selected farm business factors. Priority attention should be given to improving cost margins, total farm business size, and output per worker.

2. If it can be assumed that the farmers in the study represent an unbiased sample of all crop and livestock farmers in this country, then all such farmers through use of good farm records would have a good probability of increasing their farming profits by following the recommendations made in item one above.

3. Most colleges and schools offering in agriculture could well plan to carry out improvements to their programs of teaching, research, and service in farm management.

An Expanding Program of Community Services By State Colleges

By Leslie J. Van Etten,
Western Illinois University

In many States, the university and land-grant colleges were established prior to the State colleges. Again, in many States it was thought by these early founders that one university would be sufficient to care for the needs of higher education within the State. However, as time passed, population increased and needs became greater, it was realized that there was need for additional State-supported colleges (especially in the field of teacher training). Therefore, many States established one or more so-called State teachers colleges, or normal schools, within their boundaries.

As time passed, population increased, cities grew, progress was made, and it was found that these State colleges were being called upon to supply other additional services beyond the preparation of teachers. Business men of the area needed secretaries and stenographers, so why not train these in the local State college instead of at a business school some distance away? The farmer's sons needed further scientific agricultural training, plus some college culture, so why not offer such a curriculum to the students in the surrounding area? Also, there seemed to be a justification for many pre-professional curriculums so that the first two years of a professional courses, such as dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, journalism, business administration, etc., could be taken in these colleges.

Thus, in ever-broadening and expanding curriculums, the State normal schools have been changed in name and nature

into colleges and universities offering both undergraduate and graduate work in many varied fields.

Today the State colleges are still expanding, and rightly so. In most cases, the colleges have the facilities to offer, and the College service area is demanding many more community services. During the past spring, the writer has been contacted by twenty-three persons of the local community wanting information on pruning or propagating fruits or ornamental shrubs. One man brought a sprig of a pine tree infected by a pest and asked for its identification and the means of control. A lady home owner asked for suggestions as to shrubs for substitution for other unavailable shrubs in her landscape plan. Fifteen persons have asked for recommendation of student help to do planting, transplanting, pruning, or spraying; in each case, the employer specified that such student should have had training in horticulture.

The other divisions of the local agriculture department are continually being asked similar questions for aid, such as when and how soil tests should be made; what fertilizers to apply, and what crops are best for the particular area. No doubt similar departments of other State colleges are likewise continually being asked to provide assistance in solving problems related to their fields of instruction.

These conditions seem to encourage and justify an expanding program of community services by the State colleges. This article is a reminder and a plea to the agriculture departments of all colleges to take note of community needs, and then take positive steps to provide additional community services. Let us increase our value and worth to the community by helping those who help to support us.

Advantages of A National Agricultural Honorary Society

By Lyle E. Youngberg, National Reporter, Delta Tau Alpha

Would you accept an invitation to join an agricultural honorary society? Many agriculture students on our nation's campuses would say "yes" to this question even though they have only a vague idea as to what an honor society really represents. They may not realize what membership in an honorary society would mean to them at the present and in the future.

The primary objective of an agriculture honor society is to recognize an individual's attainment of scholarship, leadership, and character of a superior quality in the field of agriculture. The society also promotes interest, honor and dignity in the field of agriculture. It cultivates a desire among students to study and learn. This in return will help bring greater achievements by students to the field of agriculture.

There are many advantages associated with being a member of an honorary society. Membership in such an organi-

zation is an excellent job recommendation, as it is self-explanatory of the individual's scholastic ability. It is a good indication of high character standard and leadership ability. It gives the individual a great personal satisfaction and a sense of honor to be a member. An individual that has achieved membership in an agriculture honor society will have instilled in him the ability and desire to maintain his high personal and professional standards. He will be looked upon as outstanding in the field of agriculture and will be respected by his fellowmen. Through his membership he will meet other persons that are leaders and members of other chapters. This fellowship is a priceless asset. Through his chapter he is a part of an organization of national recognition.

To become a member of a National Agriculture Honor Society is certainly a goal that is well worth striving toward for all agriculture students.

Conducting Agricultural Research

By Burton W. DeVeau, Ohio University

What is the role of the agriculture teacher in a non-land grant college in conducting research? In order to answer this question it becomes necessary to define the term research. An agricultural research scientist may define research as a scientific study utilizing experimental design procedures involving some phase of agricultural production, processing, or marketing. Webster defines research as "a careful research; a studious inquiry; a critical and exhaustive investigation or experimentation having for its aim the revision of accepted conclusions, in the

light of newly discovered facts." If we limit our definition of research to some phase of agricultural production the role of the agriculture teacher in a non land grant college becomes restricted. If we accept the definition of research as given by Webster the role of the agriculture teacher, regardless of his location, becomes unlimited.

In a recent study of research projects conducted by NACTA members it was revealed that over 75 per cent of the participants were not expected nor encouraged by their administration to con-

duct research. Several participants indicated they were discouraged from conducting any type of scientific research in order that they would not be "competing" with the land grant college in their state. (1) This type of reaction existed primarily in the state colleges and may be a result of a narrow definition of agricultural research and/or problems involved with appropriations from the state legislatures.

If we accept the definition of research as given by Webster we would not need to be concerned with "encroachment" of rights in certain states for we would conduct research projects involving all phases of agriculture including teaching techniques, curriculum improvement, historical research, follow-up studies of graduates, analysis of student needs, and many other projects peculiar to agriculture in general or to a specific situation. Such projects can be classified as research as well as the most highly technical experimental research projects and may be equal or greater in their contributions. A few examples of possible research projects which could be conducted by all NACTA members are:

1. Study of jobs of graduates during their first three years after graduation.
2. Study of curriculum desires of companies employing agriculture students.
3. Study of learning during laboratory and field experience.
4. Discussion techniques.
5. Enrollment trends.
6. Curricula change recommendations of alumni.
7. Learning during field trip experiences.

Many other project areas could be cited for specific institutions. An example of such a research project was reported by John K. Ward in his article, "Graduate Study Policies," published in the February, 1959 issue of the NACTA Journal. An example of an agricultural production research project by Robert A. Hodges appears in this issue of the Journal.

Regardless of the type or kind of research conducted the important objective is to conduct research of high quality. Research is one of the means by which

we seek to discover the truth. However, due to the various limitations associated with research very rarely does research reveal the whole truth about anything. The closeness to which research reveals truth depends upon its quality. Therefore, it becomes necessary to observe criteria and precautions when conducting research. Such criteria which are applicable were stated by James H. Fox. (2)

"1. The purpose of the research, or the problem involved, should be clearly defined and sharply delineated in terms as unambiguous as possible.

2. The procedural design of the research should be carefully planned to yield results that are as objective as possible.

3. The research procedures used should be described in sufficient detail to permit another researcher to repeat the research.

4. The researcher should report, with complete frankness, flaws in the procedural design and estimate their effect upon the findings.

5. Analysis of the data should be sufficiently adequate to reveal its significance; and the methods of analysis used should be appropriate.

6. Conclusions should be confined to those justified by the data of the research and limited to those for which the data provides an adequate basis."

In utilizing the above criteria and developing individual or group research projects significant to their local or regional conditions each member of the NACTA will be contributing to the achievement of the purpose of the Association, "to encourage and promote research in Agriculture among members of the Association."

(1) DeVeau, Burton W., *A Study of Agricultural Research Projects At Non Land Grant Colleges Teaching Agriculture*, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, February 1959.

(2) Fox, James H., "Criteria of Good Research," *Phi Delta Kappan*, Volume 39, Number 6, March, 1958, p. 285.

Chemical Weed Control In Alfalfa and Sericea Lespedeza

By Robert A. Hodges
Connors State Agricultural College, Okla.

Scope and Method of Study

There were two objectives in this study. The first was to determine if any of several herbicides, singly, or in combinations, might be helpful in the establishment of alfalfa and Sericea lespedeza. The second was to determine the most desirable rate of application. The herbicides used were applied in forty gallons of water per acre. The rates shown in the treatment tables below refer to actual material applied.

The first treatment was applied at planting time on April 9, as a premerge; the second after a few leaves had appeared as a post-emerge on May 13, 1958.

First Treatment

- 4 lb. EPTC per acre
- 8 lb. EPTC per acre
- 3 lb. Dalapon per acre
- 1 lb. 2, 4-DB per acre
- 2 lb. 2, 4-DB per acre
- 1 lb. 2, 4-DB, plus 2 lb. Dalapon per acre
- Check (hoed)
- Check (not hoed)

Second Treatment

- 4 lb. EPTC per acre
- 8 lb. EPTC per acre
- 3 lb. Dalapon per acre
- 1/2 lb., 2, 4-DB per acre
- 1 lb., 2, 4-DB per acre
- 1/2 lb. 2, 4-DB plus 1 lb. Dalapon per acre
- 1 lb. Dinitro per acre
- 2 lb. Dinitro per acre

Randomized block designs of four replications for each treatment was provided and followed in planting, application, and determinations for both legumes. Each plot consisted of four twenty foot rows spaced one foot apart, the two inside rows being used for determinations. Plant and weed counts were made on May 9, and May 22, 1958.

Findings and Conclusions:

Observations in this study showed 2,

4-DE to be a good soil sterilant as indicated by the absence of both plants and weeds on plots where applied as a pre-emerge. Of the materials tested, EPTC provided the best plant survival and weed kill combination. The 8 lb. rate was just slightly superior to the 4 lb. rate, therefore, from the standpoint of cost, the 4 lb. rate would be recommended. The other herbicides failed to provide good weed control, or were detrimental to the plants when applied as a post-emerge.

Although this single study does not afford conclusive proof of the merits of the materials tested, yet the indications are that some of the materials are sufficiently selective to be of value for weed control in alfalfa and Sericea lespedeza establishment.

Passing of L. E. Laubaugh

L. E. Laubaugh, Professor of Agriculture at Illinois Normal University, Illinois, passed away on Monday, May 4. He had suffered several heart attacks and was on leave from his classes when his death occurred.

Mr. Laubaugh was a charter member of NACTA and deeply interested in its growth and development. He had attended every annual conference since the inception of our organization and frequently had participated in our programs.

The livestock and dairy cattle judging teams from Illinois Normal University which won top honors at Berea were coached by Professor Laubaugh who had had a long and most constructive teaching career at that institution. We shall miss greatly his cheery presence and his demonstrated faith in the principles for which the NACTA stands. President R. A. Benton represented the NACTA at the funeral.

Swine Testing At Western Illinois University

By Glenn D. Shippy

In the spring of 1957, fifty purebred swine breeders from thirteen counties in Western Illinois organized a swine testing association and constructed a testing station on the farm of the Western Illinois University at Macomb, Illinois.

The purpose of the Station is to assist swine producers in producing, selecting and marketing efficient meat type breeding stock in the following ways:

1. Feeding under uniform conditions of feeding and management.
2. Determining feed efficiency of meat type hogs through individual feed records on pigs from the same litter.
3. Conduct slaughter tests on the barrows and probe tests on the breeding stock at the end of the feeding period to determine meat type.

The association is governed by a board of directors consisting of nine men selected for a term of three years. These men manage the business, property and affairs of the association.

Recently an advisory council to this board was selected consisting of vocational agriculture teachers, extension specialists, representatives from the packing industry, agriculture college representatives and farm managers. They will meet twice yearly with the board in an advisory capacity.

The supreme authority in the direction and control of the affairs of the association rest with the active membership. Membership classes include: active, associate and honorary members. The annual dues are \$3.00; in addition, an active membership fee of \$100.00 is collected to provide for the general expenses, i.e. feeding, caring for, and keeping records of all swine delivered to the station during a single test period.

Financial assistance came as donations from organizations throughout the area to assist in the construction of the station. Three separate concrete slabs, 17 feet by 200 feet, were constructed, on which permanent houses, open to the south were built resulting in 150 pens. Individual feeders and waterers are placed

in each pen with running water available. The approximate cost of this set-up was \$17,900.

The Western Illinois University has leased to the association one and one-half acres of land for a period of five years with an option for renewal and agree to provide water, tractor and manure spreader, portable scales and truck for their use.

Litters to be tested must meet P. R. requirements as set-up by the respective breed associations. Litter mates, two boars and a barrow, must be delivered to the station between 60 and 65 days of age. (Spring litters delivered between April 1 and May 30. Fall litters delivered between October 1 and November 15.) Pigs are weighed at the time they go on test.

Health certificates must accompany pigs when delivered, and are under continued observation by a veterinarian.

All pigs are fed the same type of ground feed rations in self-feeders.

Pigs on tests are weighed monthly. Pounds of gain, average daily gain computed, and are made available to the owner. Pounds of feed consumed per pound of gain, and total feed consumed are computed at the end of the period.

The barrow s slaughtered after reaching 190 lbs. and before 210 lbs.

Over all rate of gain, feed conversion per 100 lbs. of gain, cost of gain per cwt., backfat "probe" will be computed after boars and/or barrow reach 190 lbs. and before they reach 210 lbs. The test is to terminate when the pig reaches 190-210 lbs. or not later than 180 days of age.

The association has concluded its second test period on March 1, 1959, and at the present time they are opening the third period. Summaries of performances of the breeders represented in these tests are now available.

A sale of boars has concluded each of the past two test periods. In the former, a rating committee selected the boars for the sale, in the latter the Illinois Boar Index was used in the sale selection.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1959 CONFERENCE

Among the many outstanding features of the NACTA 1959 Conference at Berea as listed by several of those who attended were the following:

The hearty welcome extended to us by our hosts of the Berea College faculty—President Hutchins, Mayor Hensley and Dr. Wolford to mention a few.

The friendly give and take of committee meetings.

Business before pleasure as indicated by the regular attendance at each session.

The beautiful Kodachrome slides shown by Dr. Klomprens and his skilful non-technical presentation of his subject.

Berea College's fine campus and its extensive farm layout.

The assembling of the student judges at the Banquet and our pleasure at witnessing the successful termination of the first NACTA judging contest.

Concise presentations of committee reports and pertinent comments from the membership.

The thoughtful address of President T. R. Buie.

Tillman Bubenzer and his practical

philosophy calling for independent thinking on the part of students enrolled in college agriculture.

Two hearty breakfasts provided generously by Ralston Purina and Southern States Cooperative.

John Schatz and his group of student representatives who started into being Delta Tau Alpha, our national honorary agricultural fraternity.

An increase in number of states and institutions attending as revealed by our Secretary's report on registration.

Fun, humor, wit and just enough philosophy in the Banquet address by Penrose T. Ecton. Also the fine music furnished by Berea College.

Cordial invitations from Western Illinois University and Southwest Missouri State College for the 1960 conference.

An excellent group of officers who will direct the NATCA to greater heights.

Good fellowship throughout our meetings and the quiet confidence of all that the NACTA was firmly on its feet and was in a position to render increasingly more effective service to students, rural people and the cause of education in general.

TO SPRINGFIELD IN 1960

Take it from Dr. Glenn E. Karls, head of the Agriculture Department at Southwest Missouri State College, Springfield should serve as a perfect site for our 1960 convention.

Boasts Dr. Karls, "The facilities are unbeatable and the town's ready to give you a good old fashioned welcome."

Springfield is known as "the Queen City of the Ozarks," Dr. Karls points out, "and besides that the food is fit for a king."

And it's readily accessible, the genial department head adds. "Practically every highway in the nation leads to Springfield."

Living there is more truth than

poetry to Dr. Karl's statement is the fact that hard-surfaced roads lead from Springfield in any direction. U. S. Highways 66, 65, 60, 13, 160, and 166 intersect at Springfield. The largest railroad shops west of the Mississippi are found in this genial city of 105,000, with the Frisco and Missouri-Pacific offering both passenger and freight service. Three airlines offer daily passenger and freight service: American, Delta and Czar. Municipal airport is only 15 minutes from downtown.

As for lodging facilities, first-class accommodations include over 2,000 hotel and motel rooms. Fine, new, spacious, moderately-priced motels are available, "as fine as you'll find anywhere," extolls Dr. Karls. Excellent downtown hotels in-

clude Arms.

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clude the Colonial, Moran, and Kentwood Arms.

The city itself is situated near the center of the Ozarks region within 60 minutes drive to Ozarks famous recreational areas. The city is the third largest in the state.

Churches total about 150, representing more than 30 different denominations.

Industry is diversified, totaling 240 manufacturing firms—and world headquarters for Assembly of God Church (daily printing of literature over five tons in its Gospel Publishing House). Industry includes paper containers,

trailers, furniture, cheese, clothing, and building products.

Last but not least, it's the home of the Ozark Jubilee, or Jubilee U. S. A., as it's now known. This famous network show, starring Red Foley, is telecast from the downtown Jewell Theater every Saturday night. Tickets may be obtained, but it's a good idea to make your reservation early.

The more we hear about Springfield, the more we're inclined to believe Dr. Karls knows whereof he speaks when he calls it "the perfect convention city."

(Don Payton, SMS Publicity Director)

NACTA Chatter

From Wilmington College (Ohio) comes the glad news that the Roy Joe Stuckey's have a new baby daughter, Rebecca Ruth, born on March 4. Our congratulations and best wishes. We learn also that Wilmington College will host a 22-county FFA and 4-h livestock judging contest on May 9.

The Berry Schools (Georgia) held their annual livestock judging show on April 4. Competition was keen in this affair which was sponsored by the Berry Agricultural Club.

A very successful FFA judging contest was conducted by Nichols State College (Louisiana) early in the year for the FFA chapters of that area. Students in the Department of Agriculture staged the Eighth Annual Contest which included the judging of livestock dairy cattle, dairy products and poultry. Some 130 FFA members participated in the various events.

Hesston College (Kansas) is working hard on its plans for its 50th. Anniversary celebration. Congratulations to our good friends at Hesston College on the splendid service that institution has given during the first half century of its existence. May its influence continue to grow in the years to come.

Tennessee Tech was saddened on March 22 by the death of Joe E. Conry, Director of its School of Agriculture. Mr. Conry

was one of the original founders of the NACTA attending both of its first and second conferences at Warrensburg, Missouri. Professor W. J. Huddleston is serving as acting director during the current term.

Our President, Dr. Ralph A. Benton, has been invited to participate in a national conference on Agricultural Education in Our Public Schools, May 18-19. The sessions will be held on the campus of Iowa State College. The panel of which Dr. Benton is a member will be moderated by Dr. Henry Brunner of the U.S. Office of Education.

Spring activities on the Tennessee Tech campus during March, included the Middle Tennessee FFA livestock judging contests attended by 800 boys and teachers from approximately 90 high schools, and Career Day with 3000 high school seniors present. The Aggie-Home Economics banquet on May 2 was preceded by a meeting of the Alumni Association.

As indicated elsewhere, our good friends at Southwest Missouri State College are making plans for our March 1960 conference. However, they were not too busy in mid-April to entertain 1600 FFA members with a three day program of judging contests.

Wisconsin State College has purchased a new 400 acre farm which in part will replace land lately diverted for a new

field house and athletic fields. Early in April the Agriculture Department conducted a school for 100 FFA members. These boys received training in livestock, dairy cattle, dairy products, crops and farm management.

FIRST DELTA TAU ALPHA CHAPTER ESTABLISHED

As we go to press the National Advisor of our honorary scholastic fraternity, Professor John D. Schatz, Southwest Missouri State College, writes us that the

initial chapter has been established on the campus of Ohio University. Congratulations to Dr. DeVeau and his students as they bring into being this local chapter of Delta Tau Alpha, the organization which was formally approved at the last NACTA conference. From what we hear several other institutions are well along in the planning stage and will be represented at Springfield, Missouri where the national organization of Delta Tau Alpha will be formalized in March 1960.

OUR GRATITUDE TO CONNER PRAIRIE FARMS

The officers, the editorial staff and all the members of the NACTA sincerely say "thank you" to Conner Prairie Farms of Noblesville, Indiana, for its generosity in providing funds for this number of the Journal of the NACTA. We are especially grateful to Mr. Tillman Bubenzer, Manager of the Conner Prairie Farms, for his interest in our organization, and also his invitation to visit the Farm and observe some of the modern methods of farming which are being used. This farm is the home of performance tested incross boars.

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